

Message on the Observance of Yom Kippur, 2000

October 6, 2000

Warm greetings to all those observing Yom Kippur.

This Day of Atonement, the most solemn of all the days of the Jewish calendar, is a time for intense prayer, fasting, and reflection. For the duration of Yom Kippur, Jews across America and around the world separate themselves from the comforts and distractions of everyday life to focus on repairing their relationship with God. It is a time to look back on the failures and transgressions of the past year, to make amends, and to seek God's forgiveness.

In neighborhoods across our nation, as Jewish families gather for Yom Kippur services, they offer people of all faiths an extraordinary witness. They remind us of the power of faith that changes lives, the love of family that strengthens spirits, and the blessing of God's forgiveness that allows us to repent of our sins and begin anew.

At this difficult time for all of us who have worked for peace, let us pray for an end to the violence and for a new beginning in the Middle East. Hillary joins me in extending best wishes to all for a meaningful Yom Kippur.

Bill Clinton

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

September 30

The President had separate telephone conversations with Chairman Yasser Arafat of the Palestinian Authority and Prime Minister Ehud Barak of Israel concerning the recent outbreak of violence between Jews and Palestinians in the Middle East.

The President had a telephone conversation with President Vladimir Putin of Russia concerning the elections in Yugoslavia.

October 2

The President had a telephone conversation with President Ahmet Necdet Sezer of Turkey concerning a congressional resolution to recognize accusations of Turkish genocide against Armenians in 1915.

The President announced his intention to nominate Philip N. Bredesen to be a member of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science.

The President announced his intention to nominate Reginald Earl Jones to be Commissioner of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

The President announced his intention to nominate Randolph J. Agley to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service.

The President announced his intention to nominate Mark A. Weinberger to be a member of the Social Security Advisory Board.

The President announced his intention to nominate Hsin-Ming Fung to be a member of the National Council on the Arts.

The President announced his intention to nominate Edward F. Reilly, Jr., to be a member of the U.S. Parole Commission.

The White House announced that the President will meet with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina of Bangladesh in Washington on October 17.

October 3

In the morning, the President traveled to Miami, FL, where he attended a New York Senate 2000 reception in the afternoon at a private residence.

In the evening, the President watched the Presidential candidates debate at a private residence. Afterwards, he had a telephone conversation with Vice President Gore to congratulate him on his performance. Later, the President traveled to Coral Gables, FL.

The President announced his intention to appoint Kate Fitz Gibbon as a member of the Cultural Property Advisory Committee.

The President announced his intention to reappoint Gary J. Lavine as a member of the Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad.